I’m Not Scared Holiday homework

From the first page Ammaniti skilfully describes the landscape and the simple world of the child. Of course, as the story of the terrible crime begins to unfold, Michele’s innocent world is scattered by the cruel actions of the adults.

To get a sense of Michele’s childhood, complete the following tasks:

Think back to summer holidays when you were a child. Think of a place that has strong memories: the beach, a regular holiday spot, a cousin’s farm, grandparents’ house, family friends’ house, your own backyard, a camping trip, the local swimming pool.

**1. Task 1: As you have this ‘summer place’ in your mind, write a paragraph for each of the five senses:**

Describe the scene according to your **SIGHT.** Be creative/imaginative. How does it look? What can you see? Describe the detail. Is steam coming off the asphalt? Can you see the flowers wilting, are people hot, red in the face, sweating? How do they look? Are people lazy, angry, unchanged?

Describe the scene according to **SMELL**. Is there a BBQ on? Can you smell the rain on the hot asphalt, aero guard, sun-screen, salt in the air, fish and chips, recently mowed lawn, perspiration?

What can you **TASTE**? A freshly caught trout on the BBQ, fresh berries and stone fruit, lemonade icy-poles, sea-salt, chlorine, lemon Galati, watermelon, lovely ice cold water?

What is that you **HEAR**? Waves crashing onto the beach, the sound of lawn mowers, the click of ice in your class, the drone of cricket commentators, favourite songs on the radio, squeals from cousins or friends playing, the smack on the cheek of aunty Pat’s greeting kiss, the ding of a tram as you do your Christmas shopping?

**TOUCH**. What can you feel? Is it the salt water drying on your skin, loose clothing, shorts and singlet, sweat dripping down your face, leg sticking to vinyl seats, sand in everything including lunch, the ground under your bare feet, the breeze on your skin, the blister between your toes as you get used to your new thongs?

**Task 2: Write a draft creative response to the prompt:**

**‘Blood is thicker than water’**

Here are a few ideas you could use:

* Write Michele’s thoughts processes as he goes to save Filippo (internal dialogue)
* Write a letter, from Michele to Fillipo’s parents explaining why you acted the way you did.
* Write Pino’s story from a prison cell, explaining why you did what you did
* Write from the perspective of Fillipo about Michele's actions/experience/use five senses
* Write about the first time you realised that adults around you are flawed.
* In a criminal activity- Rebellious teenager gets caught up with the wrong crowd and needs to make choice between the 'baddies' and family.
* Your family's cultural traditions mean you are expected to behave in a set way. You challenge these traditions, causing stress to your parents but you find your 'true self'. Sometimes we need to break free of the constrictions of our family.
* Remember Maria's fall and Michele running back to help her up. Use this plot for adult characters. A brother/sister gets in trouble and needs help. You find it a drag, maybe initially refuse but then you realise she is family and you must help. You do? High drama …. a thriller?

Task 1 is intended to help you prepare for task 2. Remember to make your stories interesting. Both tasks are due first day back of term two.